

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0066] as follows:

Another possible embodiment form of the ~~valve diaphragm~~ plate 12 † is shown in Figs. 13 to 18. The ~~valve diaphragm~~ plate 12 † has two partial plates 49, 50 which are connected to one another by a bolt 51, each of which has the same quantity of openings 53, 54 lying on an imaginary circular line at the same distance from one another on both partial plates 49, 50. By swiveling the two partial plates 49, 50 around the axis 52 of the bolt 51, the partial plates 49, 50 can be adjusted between a complete overlapping of the openings 53, 54 (Fig. 17) and a non-overlapping position of the openings 53, 54, so that the area of the resulting openings 15 of the ~~valve diaphragm~~ plate is adjustable. The through-cross section of the valve can be preadjusted in this way (symmetric to the axis of the valve opening in each instance) in its partially closed state (active position of the diaphragm plate and open position of the valve plate). Adjustment according to Fig. 13 gives the smallest through-cross section which results from the remaining residual gap.